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Macclesfield Rural District Council



**REPORT**



on the

**Health and Sanitary Circumstances  
of the District**

for the

Year ended 31st December, 1952



**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :**

H. R. DUGDALE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
(Acting from 1st to 31st January)

L. RICH, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.  
(From 1st February)

**SANITARY INSPECTOR :**

WILLIAM WATSON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

**ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR :**

B. J. OVERBURY, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.



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## **To the Chairman and Members of the Macclesfield Rural District Council.**

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Rural District of Macclesfield for the year 1952.

During the year under review, Dr. H. R. Dugdale officiated for one month until my arrival on 1st February, 1952.

There has been an overall increase in the population of some 280 persons. With an increase in the birth rate of only 20 and a slight fall in the death rate, it would appear that there has been some movement of population into our area.

There has been an increase in the incidence of infectious disease, particularly in respect of Whooping Cough and Measles.

Housing still remains one of the most urgent Public Health measures which the Council has to face. There were 627 persons on the waiting list for houses at the 31st December, 1952. During the year, only 14 Council houses were completed. It would appear therefore that we are not dealing with this problem with the sense of urgency that it demands.

I am pleased to report that there have been no maternal deaths. This is a very good record, considering that there were 260 confinements during the year.

I wish to thank your Clerk and the members of his staff for their help and guidance during the year under review. In particular, I wish to thank your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. Watson, and his Assistant, Mr. B. J. Overbury, for all the help they have given in enabling me to carry out my duties and for their assistance in the preparation of this report.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

L. RICH,

Medical Officer of Health.

*The figures in brackets throughout this report are for 1951.*





# Statistics and Social Conditions

## Extracts from Vital Statistics

Estimated Population ... .. 19,910 (19,630)

### Births

			Total	Male	Female
Live Births	Legitimate	...	254 (234)	153 (131)	101 (103)
	Illegitimate	...	10 (9)	5 (1)	5 (8)
Still Births	Legitimate	...	2 (6)	1 (4)	1 (2)
	Illegitimate	...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated average population mid 1952 ... ..					
				13.7	(12.4)
Live Birth Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 of the population... ..					
				15.3	(15.5)
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births				7.5	(24.1)
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total population...				.1	(.3)
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 total population ... ..					
				.35	(.36)

### Infantile Mortality

The total number of deaths is shown as follows :—

			Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	7 (9)	6 (6)	1 (3)
Illegitimate	...	...	1 (—)	1 (—)	— (—)
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...					
				30.3	(37)
Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales ...					
				27.6	(29.6)
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births...					
				27.5	(38.5)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births					
				100	(0)

### Deaths

			Total	Male	Female
Deaths, all ages...	...	...	231 (234)	109 (124)	122 (110)
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population					
				15.3	(17)
Death Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 of the population ... ..					
				11.3	(12.5)

The following table shows the deaths from all causes within the district during the past year.

Cause	Total	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	1	1	—
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease ... ..	1	—	1
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic disease ...	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	8	6	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	8	6	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	5	—	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	2	—	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	19	11	8
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	1	—	1
Diabetes ... ..	2	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	42	12	30
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	28	18	10
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	6	3	3
Other heart diseases... ..	51	19	32
Other circulatory disease ... ..	11	7	4
Influenza ... ..	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	10	5	5
Bronchitis ... ..	6	3	3
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	4	4	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	3	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	3	2	1
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	1	1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ... ..	—	—	—
Other defined and ill defined diseases ...	17	8	9
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	—	—	—
All other accidents ... ..	1	—	1
Suicide ... ..	1	1	—
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—	—
Total ... ..	231	109	122

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes :

Puerperal Sepsis ... .. 0 (0)

Other Maternal causes... .. 0 (0)

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births—0 (0).



# General Provisions of Health Services for the Area

## Care of Mothers and Young Children

The Infant Welfare Centres established continue to carry out most valuable work in connection with the Care of Mothers and Young Children.

Welfare Centre	New Cases		Total Attendances		No. of Clinics held	Cases seen by Doctor	Average per clinic seen by Dr.
	0—1	1—5	0—1	1—5			
Poynton ...	49 (81)	6 (13)	619 (790)	712 (831)	24 (24)	314 (361)	13.1 (15)
Prestbury	9 (7)	7 (—)	139 (89)	261 (207)	24 (24)	125 (81)	5.2 (3.4)
Rainow ...	14 (11)	2 (1)	146 (158)	295 (327)	24 (24)	142 (143)	5.9 (5.9)
Sutton ...	14 (16)	— (1)	212 (183)	161 (194)	23 (22)	140 (107)	6.1 (4.8)

The above figures indicate the amount of work being carried out at the clinics in the Macclesfield Rural District.

In addition, Health Visiting is carried out by Nurses specially trained for the job, who follow up the work done in the Welfare Centre by regular attendance at the homes of the people.

The main purpose of Welfare Centres and Health Visiting is to teach the mother, by means of Health Education, the principles and practice of the prevention of disease, both for herself and for her children.

Welfare foods and many kinds of dried milks are sold at the clinics at low prices. In addition, weaning foods considered suitable are made available.

Work at the clinics is helped considerably by the ready assistance of the voluntary helpers, and it is in no small measure due to the work of these worthy people that the clinics are so successful,

## Home Nursing Service

The Nurses who form part of the Home Nursing Service are as follows:—

Nurse	Address	Telephone No.
K. A. Wheeler	Sunshine Cottage, Butley Lane, Adlington	Prestbury 8360
E. Gornall	Nurse's Cottage, Monks Heath, Chelford	Chelford Rf. 216
J. Hughes	Church House, Chelford	Chelford 314
A. Bowyer	5, Wardle Crescent, Gawsworth.	Macclesfield 3329
E. Carruthers	1, Robin Crescent, Sutton	Sutton 363
W. Wareing	11, Brookside Ave., Poynton	Poynton 2137
M. A. Wright	7, Bollinside, Prestbury	Prestbury 8464
E. Lythgoe	Oakwood, Chapel Lane, Rainow	Bollington 2184

These nurses work mainly in collaboration with the General Practitioners and form a most valuable service. In addition this, by making available skilled attention in the home, results in the lift of considerable pressure on the hospitals.

## Vaccination and Immunisation

As outlined in last year's report, the scheme for Vaccination and Immunisation is carried out mainly by close co-operation with the General Practitioners.

There is a falling off in the number of young mothers presenting their children for Diphtheria Immunisation. The seriousness of this cannot be over stressed, because, as the recent outbreak in Darwen has shown, if the percentage of immunised children falls below a certain level, we are liable to a recurrence of Diphtheria epidemics.

Whooping Cough immunisation is definitely showing good results, and fortunately this can be combined with Diphtheria immunisation and there is no necessity to increase the number of injections. Mothers should take it upon themselves to see that their babies are immunised against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough at the age of six months.

## Statistics

### Diphtheria Immunisation

Pre-school children	...	...	66	(108)
School children	...	...	63	(78)
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			129	(186)
			<hr/>	<hr/>
Reinforcing injections	...	...	27	(36)

### Whooping Cough Immunisation

Pre-school children	...	...	51	(22)
School children	...	...	20	(7)
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			71	(29)

### Combined Immunisation (Diphtheria & Whooping Cough)

Pre-school children	...	...	15	(6)
School children	...	...	1	(5)
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			16	(11)

### Primary Vaccination

Pre-school children	...	...	91	(118)
School children	...	...	4	(9)
Adults	...	...	8	(9)
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			103	(136)

### Re-Vaccination

Pre-school children	...	...	—	(—)
School children	...	...	4	(6)
Adults	...	...	35	(47)
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			39	(53)

## Ambulance and Sitting Case Car Transport

As stated in previous reports the County Ambulance Service based in Macclesfield, continues to serve the greater part of the district. Ambulances, however, are always available from Congleton, Stockport, Alderley Edge, Whaley Bridge and Sandbach.

Owing to this comprehensive scheme of ambulance service, it is impossible to separate out the mileage as applying strictly to the Rural District, as there is much overlapping.

I am pleased to report, however, that complaints are few, and the cost per patient per mile is one of the lowest in the County.



## Domestic Help Service

As was stated in last year's report, the work of this service is expanding. Apart from the maternity cases who are dealt with at home, the majority of people who benefit from this service are old age pensioners. There is no doubt that there is insufficient room in our hospitals and hostels for all the old people. Many of these cases, of necessity, must be dealt with at home, where indeed they wish to remain.

Statistics relating to the Home Help Service provided in the Macclesfield Rural District during 1952 are as follows :—

### Home Helps employed during 1952.

Full Time	...	...	...	1	(1)
Temporary	...	...	...	8	(4)
Casual	...	...	...	12	(13)
				21	(18)

### Home Helps employed at 31st December, 1952.

Full Time	...	...	...	—	(—)
Temporary	...	...	...	6	(3)
Casual	...	...	...	1	(1)
				7	(4)

### Applications received during 1952.

Confinement	...	...	...	12	(16)
Sickness	...	...	...	6	(9)
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1	(—)
Aged and Infirm	...	...	...	10	(7)
				29	(32)

### Cases attended during 1952.

Confinement	...	...	...	12	(14)
Sickness	...	...	...	4	(13)
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1	(—)
Aged and Infirm	...	..	...	23	(8)
				40	(35)

## Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease

As stated in the introduction to this report, there has been a marked increase in the prevalence of infectious diseases throughout the year. Although it is not possible yet to control the spread of Measles, much can be done to prevent the incidence of Whooping Cough. Whooping Cough leaves very serious effects in the lungs and can be the predisposing cause for many of the chest ailments

in later life. If mothers would realise these effects, I feel sure that they would readily submit their infants to the doctors for Immunisation.

There has been a slight increase in Tuberculosis, both Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary. I am pleased to report however, that the waiting time for cases to be admitted to hospital is very much reduced.

Here again, we have it in our power to reduce the incidence of Tuberculosis considerably. These measures are: (1) The provision of adequate houses for all cases, or suspected cases, of Tuberculosis; (2) Medical supervision, X-ray and vaccination for all susceptible contacts of a case of Tuberculosis, and (3) Regular Mass Radiography of the area to detect early unsuspected cases who are spreading infection.



Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1952

Disease	Age distribution											Total Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	
	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—			65 and over
Scarlet Fever .....	—	1	2	1	4	22	1	1	—	—	—	32	20	—
Whooping Cough .....	4	5	9	7	12	27	—	—	—	—	—	64	—	—
Food Poisoning .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles.....	10	22	18	23	20	122	17	2	3	3	1	241	—	—
Pneumonia .....	—	—	3	—	—	2	1	—	1	1	7	20	2	10
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	1	—	10	10	—
Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—

# Tuberculosis

For comparative purposes I have recorded the notifications of Tuberculosis during 1952 in conjunction with the notifications of this disease received each year since 1943.

## NOTIFICATIONS — 1943 to 1952

	1943		1944		1945		1946		1947		1948		1949		1950		1951		1952	
	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
MALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1 — 5	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
5 — 15	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 — 25	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 — 35	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 — 45	2	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
45 — 55	2	...	...	...	2	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55 — 65	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	1	...	...
65 and over	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
FEMALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1 — 5	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 — 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 — 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...
25 — 35	2	...	...	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 — 45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	1	...
45 — 55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55 — 65	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and over	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	7	6	11	1	7	4	6	6	6	2	4	1	11	3	6	2	10	2	12	4

# DEATHS — 1943 to 1952

	1943		1944		1945		1946		1947		1948		1949		1950		1951		1952	
	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
MALE																				
Up to 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 — 5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 — 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 — 25	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 — 35	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 — 45	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 — 55	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	4	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
55 — 65	...	...	...	3	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and over	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
FEMALE																				
Up to 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 — 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 — 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 — 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 — 35	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
35 — 45	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 — 55	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55 — 65	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and over	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	2	1	9	1	6	...	7	...	6	1	4	...	4	...	4	1	1	...	1	...

I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspector for the information contained in the following sections of this report.

## **Sanitary Circumstances of the Area**

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### **Water**

Generally the supply of water by public mains has been satisfactory during the year both in quantity and quality. The Kettleshulme water supply, which was the subject of adverse comment in my last report, was still causing some anxiety because of the regularity with which samples showed the presence of both faecal and non-faecal coli. However, during September a chlorinator was installed and subsequent serial samples proved satisfactory.

The scheme for utilising the water from the disused mine adit, known as Sponds Mine, progressed a stage further and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government asked for additional information about the Council's proposals to utilise this source. It is hoped that difficulties regarding riparian owners will be overcome and that this water may be available for augmenting the present precarious supply in Kettleshulme during the coming year.

The scheme for supplying water to Over Alderley was completed during the year and an area of the district, which is of a high farming value for milk production, has now a piped water supply. In addition, the mains to be laid in connection with the distribution of the water from the Pott Shrigley borehole were almost completed and 1953 will see water from this source being distributed to augment existing supplies and to provide a much needed supply to the parish of Pott Shrigley.

With the exception of the hill parishes where the private water supplies are reasonably satisfactory, the approximate area covered by the parish of Marton still remains in need of a piped supply. Existing supplies are from shallow wells situated in the vicinity of farm premises and these are augmented for farming purposes by supplies from brooks, ponds or land drains, the water being pumped to the farm usually by hydraulic rams and in certain cases electric pumps. The auxiliary supplies are generally of unsatisfactory quality and invariably fail in dry weather. The absence of a piped water supply in this area is not only hampering the progress of agriculture, particularly in the matter of milk production but is also indirectly responsible by reason of the shortage of houses for farm workers. The Council already has an area of land in mind but houses cannot be built until a piped supply of water is provided. After a refusal by the Ministry, further consideration was given and it is hoped now that a modified scheme, acceptable to the Ministry, will be approved so that at least the worst areas of the parish can be provided with this essential amenity.



None of the water passing into the public mains has been shown to have a solvent action on lead. Approximately 85 per cent of the houses in the Rural District have a piped supply of water available.

Fourteen samples of water were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical examination and one hundred and fifty four were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. The table below shows the number and results of the samples taken.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES			PUBLIC SUPPLIES		
No. taken	Satis.	Unsatis.	No. taken	Satis.	Unsatis.
<b>Chemical</b>					
12	5	7	2	—	2
<b>Bacteriological</b>					
91	41	50	63	46	17

Regarding the seventeen unsatisfactory samples from public supplies, sixteen were from Kettleshulme and were principally serial samples taken in view of the previously known unsatisfactory condition of the water.

The information regarding mains extensions completed during the year has been supplied by the Council's Engineer.

Over Alderley—9675 yards  
 Gawsworth —1379 yards  
 Siddington —3011 yards

## Drainage and Sewerage

No new works of sewerage were carried out during the year. Again it is necessary to draw attention to the extremely unsatisfactory conditions existing in the village of Langley. It is a sad reflection that in this year of grace the primitive conservancy system of refuse disposal still obtains and it cannot be too strongly stressed that the abolition of the state of affairs existing at Langley is one which demands the urgent attention of the Council and is a matter in which they should brook no delay from whatever quarter. Other more scattered parishes such as Kettleshulme, Bosley, Chorley, Great Warford and Mottram St. Andrew are in urgent need of sewerage. In these cases it is not so much a matter of the collection of night-soil, as the nuisance arising from polluted ditch courses.

In the last report a comment was made on the unsatisfactory maintenance of the small disposal plants installed for the treatment of sewage from Council houses in various parts of the district. It is gratifying to note that labour has now been employed for the maintenance of these plants and the result is that much more satisfactory effluents are being discharged.

The Wim brook and Mobberley brook which receive the effluents from the Southern Sewage Works of the Wilmslow Urban



District Council and the Alderley Edge Urban District Council Sewage Works respectively, are still the subject of complaints by reason of their foul condition. As a result of complaints of smell from the Alderley Edge Sewage Works, which are situated within the area of the rural district, a meeting was held between representatives of the two authorities to discuss the possibility of carrying out temporary works which might be sufficient to ameliorate conditions.

## **Public Cleansing**

The collection of refuse is carried out by the Council's staff and three wagons are employed for the purpose. The collection of salvage is carried out at the same time as the refuse is collected, but owing to the glut in the waste paper market, it has been necessary to keep the collections at a minimum.

The Council has no comprehensive scheme for the emptying of pail closets and privies though this is carried out in the more populous areas, and in other cases where difficulties arise due to shortage of land or the inability of the occupiers to carry out the work themselves.

The parish of Poynton, part of the parish of Prestbury and the Langley area of Sutton have a weekly collection of refuse. The remaining parishes or parts, with the exception of Macclesfield Forest, Wildboarclough and Wincle, have a fortnightly collection. Common ashpits are emptied quarterly in Macclesfield Forest and Wildboarclough and a monthly service is given in the parish of Wincle. During the year requests have been received for a weekly collection of refuse in those parts of Prestbury at present served fortnightly and in parts of the parish of Adlington and Nether Alderley. The burden of the complaints received is principally that neighbouring areas are receiving a weekly collection and in view of the high rateable values of the properties generally, and the amount of refuse produced, they are entitled to a more frequent collection.

The Council is negotiating for the use of a sand quarry at Poynton for the disposal of refuse from that area. If this can be agreed, tipping space for many years should be available and this will enable the work to be carried out properly on a long term policy. The quarry has the added advantage that there will be ample material for covering the tipped refuse, giving an opportunity for better control. Refuse from the more populous areas round the Borough of Macclesfield is disposed of on the Council's tips at Gawsorth and Over Alderley and a number of smaller tips are situated throughout the district where occasional loads of refuse are disposed of. As pointed out in the last report a concentration of tipping would lead to better control and this involves a major policy of using large capacity vehicles.

## Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following is a summary of the principal work which has been undertaken under the Public Health and Housing Acts. Eighty-eight complaints were received and dealt with. Ninety-eight preliminary notices and twenty-five statutory notices were served.

### Record of Nuisances Abated and Work Carried Out

The following tables summarise some of the major sanitary matters dealt with :—

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Brickwork and pointing	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Chimney repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dampness remedied, gutters, r.w.p. etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Drains repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Fireplaces and cooking ranges repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mains water provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plastering	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Privies converted to pails	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sinks repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water closets repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Waste water closets converted to water closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

### Inspections

Dwelling Houses under Public Health & Housing Acts	...	258
Water Supply	...	202
Water samples analysed	...	212
Drainage and Sewerage	...	342
Verminous and dirty premises	...	6
Foul accumulations	...	19
Animals kept in insanitary conditions	...	4
Refuse accommodation	...	70
Public cleansing	...	115
Infectious diseases	...	27
Premises disinfected	...	33
Rats and mice	...	23
Schools	...	2
Factories	...	10
Milk and dairies	...	40
Shops re meat and other foods	...	48



Food preparing premises ... ..	56
Ice cream premises...	28
Bakehouses ... ..	5
Slaughterhouses ... ..	1
Tents, vans and sheds ... ..	239
Public conveniences ... ..	36
Interviews with owners and contractors ... ..	36
Miscellaneous ... ..	102

## **Tents, Vans and Sheds**

The Council has continued its progressive policy of removing structures which were considered to be ill-sited or of poor appearance, the bringing under effective control of remaining structures and the provision of suitable sites in those parishes in which a known demand exists, not only to group individual existing structures but to provide suitable accommodation against anticipated demand in the future. As a result of Enforcement Notices served under Section 23 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, 16 converted bus and vehicle bodies were removed from the district during the year.

Five camping sites have been approved for planning purposes giving a maximum capacity of 112 structures including caravans.

## **Rats and Mice Destruction**

In accordance with the requirements of the Damage by Pests Act, 1949, the Council employs one full-time rat catcher to carry out the destruction of rats and mice on their own properties and to carry out the work of extermination on third party properties which are not dwelling houses, either by agreement or default. A free service is given to private dwellings. A ten per cent test baiting of the sewers was carried out in accordance with the Ministry's requirements and evidence of infestation was found in only two manholes, and in each case this was at the point where the sewer was provided with a storm water overflow and gave no evidence of any infestation in the sewers.

The statistics in regard to the operation of the Damage by Pests Act, 1949, are set out below:—

Number of properties inspected ... ..	328
Number of properties infested by rats, or seriously infested by mice ... ..	155
Number of properties treated ... ..	159

## **Housing**

The Council has built 654 houses and in addition preparation is being made for 40 houses to be built to accommodate the overspill from Salford, Stretford and Stockport.

The provision of Council houses has been mainly to fill the needs of those families who are without a house of their own, but consideration will have to be given in the future to the provision of houses for those tenants at present occupying insanitary premises. The low rentals of some of the country cottages makes it impossible for owners to carry out the necessary repairs, and indeed a number would only warrant action under Section 11 of the Housing Act in that they cannot be made fit at a reasonable expense.

Number of houses completed during the year...	14
Number of houses in course of erection at 31st December, 1952	28
Number of pre-war houses at 31st December, 1952	228
Number of post-war houses at 31st December, 1952...	426
	<hr/> 654 <hr/>
Number of persons on the waiting list at 31st December, 1952	627
Number of houses erected by Private Enterprise	13

### **Inspection of Dwelling Houses**

Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	55
Number of inspections for the purpose	258
Remedy of defects during the year by service of formal notices	11
Remedy of defects during the year by service of informal notices	39
Number of demolition orders made under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	1
Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders (including houses under Demolition Orders prior to 1948)	—
Number of houses subject to Demolition Orders, occupied under licence	7
Houses purchased by Local Authority under Section 89 of the Housing Act, 1936	—

### **Inspection and Supervision of Food**

#### **Milk**

There are 182 distributors of milk within the area of the Macclesfield Rural District Council. The majority of these are producer retailers.

Licences issued in connection with the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949, are set out below :—

	Dealers' Licences	Supplementary Licences
Pasteurised .....	3	2
Sterilised .....	6	4
Tuberculin Tested .....	6	2

Notifications have been received from the Cheshire County Council that 19 samples of milk taken from producers within the area of the Rural District were biologically positive for tuberculosis. In no case was it found that any of the milk was being sold by retail and the appropriate authorities to which the milk was being dispatched were notified. The Council were notified that 19 cattle were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order as a result of investigations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' Veterinary Officer, and in four cases cows had been sold from the herd before the result of the sample was received. Reports were received from the Divisional Veterinary Surgeon stating that subsequent biological tests on milk from the herds had been certified as non-tuberculous. It is difficult to draw any conclusions from these particulars since the total number of samples taken within the Macclesfield Rural District and submitted for examination for the presence of tubercule is not known.

19 samples of milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, for examination; all satisfied the methylene blue test and no evidence of tuberculous infection was found. The majority of the samples taken were from supplies delivered to schools in the area and the grades are set out below :—

Tuberculin Tested ...	...	4
Pasteurised ...	...	7
Ungraded ...	...	8
		<hr/>
		19

## Meat and Other Foods

All home-killed meat for consumption in the area is slaughtered within the Borough of Macclesfield and is inspected before distribution to the retailers.

There are five licensed slaughterhouses in the area. One is used extensively during the winter months for the slaughtering of cottagers' pigs.



The following articles of food were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :—

Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	11 lbs.
Brawn	...	...	...	...	...	20 lbs.
Broth, Scotch	...	...	...	...	...	4 tins
Fish, tinned	...	...	...	...	...	1 lb.
Flour	...	...	...	...	...	4 lbs.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	124 lbs.
Tinned Ham	...	...	...	...	...	95 lbs.
Home Killed Meat	...	...	...	...	...	85 lbs.
Imported Meat	...	...	...	...	...	41 lbs.
Tinned Meat	...	...	...	...	...	71 lbs.
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	12 tins
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	15 lbs.

### Ice Cream

Number of premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream.

Hot mix	...	...	...	3
Cold mix	...	...	...	3
				<hr/>
				6

Number of premises registered for the sale of ice-cream	...	35
Number of samples of ice-cream submitted for examination	...	12
Placed in Provisional Grade 1	... ..	11
Placed in Provisional Grade 2	... ..	1

The majority of premises registered for the sale of ice-cream sell prepacked ice-cream and call for a minimum of supervision. Twenty-eight visits were made specifically in connection with the inspection of premises where ice-cream is manufactured or sold.

### Food Preparing Premises

“ Dogs in Foodshops ” Notices were distributed to fifty-two premises. The reference by the Ministry of Food of applications for catering licences to the Local Authority for their observations has been found to be of great advantage. In addition to advising regarding premises it has also been possible to ensure that the water supply is satisfactory, and in a number of cases improvements have been effected to the drainage system.

No action was taken under the Clean Food Byelaws during the year, though the requirements laid down are of great assistance when inspecting food premises.

## Factories Acts

Premises	Number on Register	No. of Inspec- tions	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecu- ted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	2	—	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	59	40	—	—
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	61	40	—	—

### Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were	
	Found	Remedied
Sanitary conveniences—		
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective... ..	1	—
Totals ...	1	—





